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## LAUNCHING OF THE PROJECT, AND REPORT OF ITS ADOPTION.

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(From Fayetteville Observer, Sept 8, 1899.)

### CANALIZATION OF THE CAPE FEAR.

We do not know how nearly the jetty system which the Government has been applying to the improvement of the Cape Fear River between Wilmington and Fayetteville for some years past, approaches what would be the cost of canalizing the river if that should be undertaken—we have no idea at all—but we do know that it does not begin to approach it in results.

The improvement of waterways is carried on on a much larger and more complete scale in Europe than with us. The conditions of life are very much harder in those old countries than in this comparatively virgin land, and the incentive to make every edge cut is correspondingly greater there. But conditions are constantly growing harder with us as our population becomes denser and more "civilized," and we believe that the subject of the canalization of the Cape Fear is one to which serious thought may be given with a view to bringing it to the attention of Congress. Mr. Thomas, our member, is very anxious to do everything in his power for his constituents. He will bring up the matter of the restoration to Fayetteville of a United States arsenal, and, no doubt, would take up this matter if found to be feasible.

If the canalization project should turn out to be capable of accomplishment, so that we might have a uniform depth of, say, six feet\* of water between here and Wilmington the year round, the completion of such work would give an impetus to the growth of Fayetteville which would be phenomenal.

By the canalization of rivers we mean such work as has been done on the Weser in Germany, on the Clyde and Tees in Scotland, and on the Seine in France. We do not know what may be the state of the work on those rivers now, no doubt far in advance of their

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\*Note: Changed to 8 feet.